

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017

Australian Federal Police

Question No. BE17-061

Senator Kakoschke-Moore asked the following question on 25 May 2017:

Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: I understand that there is a task force—and my apologies if I get the pronunciation wrong—Taskforce Cadena. It is a joint agency initiative between the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, the AFP and the Fair Work Ombudsman. It is specifically looking at disrupting criminals who are engaged in organising visa fraud, illegal work and the exploitation of foreign workers. Are you able to speak to me a little about the AFP's involvement in that particular task force?

Mr Colvin: Personally, no. I am hoping that my deputy commissioner may.

Ms Close: I am certainly aware of the task force but, in terms of some of the specifics, I would have to take on notice the focus and numbers of investigators attached to Taskforce Cadena.

The response to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

Taskforce CADENA is a joint agency initiative between Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Fair Work Ombudsman. Within the department it is led by its operational arm, the Australian Border Force.

The taskforce was established to target and disrupt the criminals organising visa fraud, illegal work and the exploitation of foreign workers.

The AFP is not a member of Taskforce CADENA however we work in close collaboration with, and provide assistance to the taskforce if there are concerns or allegations relating to human trafficking, or where human trafficking offences are identified.